

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *MIKANIA* IN MESOAMERICA (EUPATORIEAE:
ASTERACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Mikania castroi R.M. King & H. Robinson is described from Costa Rica from material previously determined as *M. gonzalezii* B.L. Robinson & Greenman, and *Mikania verapazensis* R.M. King & H. Robinson is described as new from Guatemala.

KEY WORDS: *Mikania*, Eupatorieae, Asteraceae, Mesoamerica

Study of the genus *Mikania* for preparation of the Flora Mesoamericana treatment has shown the need for the description of the following two new species:

Mikania castroi R.M. King & H. Robinson, *sp. nov.* HOLOTYPE: COSTA RICA. Cartago: North and south slopes of ridge on E side of Río Grande de Orosi, opposite mouth of Río Humo, ca. 6 km upstream from Tapantí. Elev. ca. 1500-1800 m. 9° 43' N, 83° 47' W. Coarse vine fallen to ground in disturbed area in forest. Flowers white. Nov. 24, 1984. *M. Grayum, J. Beach, & P. Sleeper 4540* (US; Isotype: MO). PARATYPES: COSTA RICA. Alajuela: Viento Fresco, alt. 1600-1900 m. Wet thicket; large herbaceous vine; flowers dirty white. Feb. 13, 1926. *P.C. Standley & R. Torres R. 47791* (US). Heredia: Yerba Buena, NE of San Isidro, alt. about 2000 m. Wet thicket, large herbaceous vine, flowers dirty white. Feb. 22, 28, 1926. *P.C. Standley & J. Valerio 50093* (US); Vara Blanca de Sarapiquí, N slope of Central Cordillera, between Poás and Barba volcanoes, alt. 1650 m. Edge of forest. Vine with clasping petioles, flowers white. March 1938. *A.F. Skutch 3655* (US). Limón: Cordillera de Talamanca, headwaters of the unnamed western branch of the Río Teribe, between the Río Sini and the continental divide at Cerro Bekom; 9° 10' 45" N, 83° 03' 30" W; Elev. 2500-2600 m. Mixed oak forest along

river with a clearing of kikuyu pasture. Vine, florets white. March 21 & 27, 1984. *G. Davidse, G. Herrera Ch. & R.H. Warner 25784* (MO,US). Puntarenas: Monteverde, sendero Chomogo. Elev. 1500-1600 m. Liana en bosque secundario; flores blancas. Sept. 7, 1985. *W.A. Haber & E. Bello C. 2637* (MO,US). San José: along route 216, ca. 8 km generally N of Nubes. Elev. ca. 4900 ft. Uncommon vines up to 3 meters above ground, flowers grey-white. June 13, 1974. *R.M. King 6781* (US).

Plantae volubiles ad 3 m altae; caules subteretes glabri in nodis lateraliter non vel minute lobulati. Folia opposita, petiolis plerumque 2-7 cm longis; laminae ovatae 4.5-15.0 cm longae 1.5-9.0 cm latae base late rotundatae vel subcordatae margine integrae vel remote denticulatae apice anguste acuminatae supra et subtus glabrae fere ad basem valde ascendenter trinervatae. Inflorescentiae in internodiis elongatae flexuosae, ramis corymbosis, pedunculis 2-7 mm longis sparse minute puberulis. Capitula 8-9 mm alta; bracteae subinvolucris ellipticae 3-5 mm longae 1.5-2.0 mm latae; bracteae involucris oblongae 6-7 mm longae et 1.0-1.5 mm latae apice breviter acutae extus glabrae vel sparse minute puberulae. Corollae albae extus plerumque glabrae, tubis cylindraceutis 2.5-3.0 mm longis, faucibus nullis, lobis anguste oblongis ca. 2 mm longis 0.3-0.4 mm latis inferne intus breviter dense papillois, nervis loborum marginatis; basi stylorum glabri; appendices stylorum dense breviter papillois. Achaenia ca. 3.5 mm longa glabra; setae pappi 4.5-5.0 mm longae vix scabridae apice non vel vix latiores.

The species is named for Victor Castro of the Universidad de Costa Rica, Escuela de Quimica, San José, Costa Rica. Specimens of the species have not previously been distinguished from *Mikania gonzalezii* B.L. Robinson & Greenman, which also occurs in Costa Rica. *Mikania gonzalezii* was originally described from México as having acute leaves with five nerves from the shallowly cordate blade bases. The latter species has been known from Costa Rica since a determination many years ago by S.F. Blake of an Austin Smith collection (*P2167*, US). It has been recently redescribed and illustrated, and recognized from Panamá and from additional Mexican collections by Holmes (1990). Distinctions of the new species from *M. gonzalezii* include the separation of the corolla lobes to the top of the basal tube, the veins of the lobe being close to the margin, the completely glabrous leaves and stem internodes, and the more weakly scabrid pappus bristles with tips not or scarcely broadened.

Mikania verapazensis R.M. King & H. Robinson, *sp. nov.* HOLOTYPE: GUATEMALA. Alta Verapaz: Mountains E of Tactic, on road to Tamahú, alt. 1500-1650 m; dense wet forest. Woody vine. April 9, 1939. *P.C. Standley 71313* (F).

Plantae volubiles ad 3 m? altae sparse ramosae; caules subteretes pilosi in nodis non lobulati. Folia opposita, petiolis plerumque 1-2 cm longis; laminae ovatae circa vel ultra $1\frac{1}{2}$ longiores quam latiores plerumque 6-9 cm longae 3-6 cm latae base late rotundatae margine remote mucrono-denticulatae apice anguste acuminatae subtus sparse pilosae e 1-2 mm supra basem trinervatae, nervis secundariis ad $\frac{1}{5}$ ultimis attingentibus. Inflorescentiae in internodiis elongatae flexuosae, ramis corymbosis, pedunculis 2-7 mm longis puberulis. Capitula c. 9 mm alta; bracteae subinvolucris ellipticae 3-5 mm longae; bracteae involucris anguste oblongae acutae c. 7 mm longae 1.5 mm latae extus glabrae; corollae albae?, tubis c. 3.5 mm longis, limbis demum abrupte salverformibus, faucibus c. 0.5 mm longis, lobis oblongo-ovatis c. 1.5 mm longis, nervis lobarum e marginis remotis; basi stylorum glabri; rami stylorum dense breviter papilloso. Achaenia c. 3.5 mm longa in costis dense spinoso-papillosa inter costas sparse puberula; setae pappi c. 5 mm longae apice vix latiores et vix scabridulae.

The single specimen is in poor condition, but distinctions are nevertheless evident in the pilosity of the stem, the glabrous involucre bracts, the tips of the pappus bristles, and the salverform limb of the corolla. The species differs from both the closest relatives, *Mikania gonzalezii* and *M. petrina* Standley & Steyermark, by the thinner and less roughened tips of the pappus bristles. The new species is more pubescent than the nearly glabrous *M. gonzalezii* but is less pubescent than *M. petrina* which has larger heads and pubescent involucre bracts. The corolla limbs of both related species seem to be broadly campanulate rather than salverform at maturity.

LITERATURE CITED

- Holmes, W.C. 1990. The genus *Mikania* (Compositae - Eupatorieae) in Mexico. Sida, Bot. Misc. 5:1-45.